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TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

1. HIGHLIGHTS. PAPERS SINCE THURSDAY FRONT-PAGED INDOCHINA
AND KISSINGER IN MIDEAST; SUNDAY PAPERS FEATURED KISSINGER
ADMITS FAILURE; MONDAY PAPERS HEADLINE KISSINGER BELIEVES
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STEP-BY-STEP POLICY IS ENDED, SEES RETURN TO GENEVA.

COMMENT SCATTERED.

1A. FRIDAY WASHPOST INSIDE HAD ROUNDUP ITEM FROM VIENNA HEADED SOVIETS URGE TROOP CUT; PAPER ALSO HAD O'TOOLE REPORTING ATOMIC WARHEADS BELIEVED RECOVERED FROM SOVIET SUB; PLUS MOSCOW BRIEFS ON ENDING OF PACIFIC ROCKET TESTS AND TASS DENIAL OF JACK ANDERSON REPORT OF KGB CONTINGENCY PLAN TO ASSASSINATE NIXON IF HE WON IN 1960.

1B. SATURDAY BALTSUN HAD WASHINGTON AP SAYING OFFICIALS BELIEVED JENNIFER UNLIKELY TO BECOME REPETITION OF U-2 CASE. SATURDAY NYTIMES REPORTED WARNING TO MEDVEDEV TO HALT DISSIDENT JOURNAL, ALSO HAD WREN MOSCOW REPORTING KOSYGIN CALL FOR WINDUP OF CSCE. SUNDAY NYTIMES HAD LOS ANGELES AP REPORTING LATIMES DENIES RECOVERY OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS FROM SUB AND DENIES ENTIRE SUB RECOVERED. BALTSUN PARKS REPORTED USSR INVESTS TWO BILLIONS A YEAR IN SIBERIAN OIL

AND GAS.

1C. MONDAY NYTIMES HAD WASHINGTON UPI REPORTING REP. ASPIN CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION OF ARMY SAFETY MEASURES IN TRANSPORT OF NERVE GAS. MONDAY WASHPOST HAS FEATURE FROM GENEVA ON CSCE.

2. TROOPS. FRIDAY WASHPOST VIENNA ITEM REPORTED SOVIET UNION RECOMMENDED A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION IN SOVIET AND AMERICAN GROUND FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE BUT A NATO SPOKESMAN SAID THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE BASIC COMMUNIST POSITION. SOURCES AT THE CONFERENCE SAID WARSAW COUNTRIES HAD RECOMMENDED RUSSIA AND AMERICA EACH CUT TROOP LEVEL BY 10,000 MEN THIS YEAR WHEREAS WESTERN ALLIANCE HAS DEMANDED WARSAW NATIONS MAKE LARGER TROOP CUTS.

3. TESTS. FRIDAY WASHSTAR HAD LOCAL AP REPORTING PENTAGON HAS ANNOUNCED SOVIETS HAVE TEST-FIRED A SECOND BIG NEW SS-18 ICBM ABOUT 7800 NAUTICAL MILES INTO THE SOUTH PACIFIC; PENTAGON ADDED THAT THIS MISSILE, LIKE ONE FIRED EARLIER THIS WEEK, CARRIED A SINGLE WARHEAD.

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4. CSCE. FRIDAY NYTIMES WREN MOSCOW REPORTED KOSYGIN AT LUNCHEON FOR CHIRAC ASKED FOR SUMMIT-LEVEL COMPLETION OF CSCE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE, WREN ADDING THAT SOVIET UNION HAS WANTED TO END THE CSCE TALKS AFTER OTHER PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZED THE PRINCIPLE OF INVIOABILITY OF PRESENT EUROPEAN FRONTIERS AND HAS EXPRESSED ANNOYANCE AT WESTERN INSISTENCE THAT THERE BE FURTHER AGREEMENT ON EXCHANGE OF HUMAN CONTACTS AND CONFIDENCE-

BUILDING MEASURES.

4A. MONDAY WASHPOST HEADS GENEVA OP-ED FEATURE BY OSNOS, USUALLY IN MOSCOW, WAS THE SECURITY CONFERENCE WORTH IT? OSNOS STRESSES DECLARATION IS FILLED WITH COMPROMISES WHICH MAKE IT VAGUE AND OPEN TO DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS, AND EVEN SOME TANGIBLE PROVISIONS -- LIKE THAT ON AVAILABILITY OF NEWSPAPERS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES -- ARE HEDGED WITH REFERENCES TO EACH COUNTRY'S MODALITIES. OSNOS SAYS ONE OF MOST SUBSTANTIVE PARAGRAPHS WILL BE THAT ON WORKING CONDITIONS OF JOURNALISTS, GRANTING MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR FIRST TIME TO WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS IN SOVIET UNION, THE RIGHT OF TELEVISION REPORTERS TO BRING IN THEIR OWN CREWS AND OTHER BENEFITS. OSNOS REPORTS THAT, ACCORDING TO WESTERN DELEGATES, THIS APPROACH WAS SOLD TO SOVIETS ON REASONING THAT THE CONFERENCE SUCCESS WILL DEPEND TO A LARGE EXTENT ON THE WAY IT IS PRESENTED IN THE MEDIA. OSNOS SAYS SOME WESTERN DELEGATES BELIEVE THE DECLARATION WILL CARRY CONSIDERABLE MORAL FORCE AND

THAT ENGAGING SOVIETS IN ANY WAY ON MATTERS AS SENSITIVE AS THEIR INTERNAL CONTROLS IS PROGRESS, DIPLOMATS ADDING THAT THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE CAN ONLY BE HELPED BY DIALOGUES OF THIS KIND. OSNOS SAYS SOVIETS FAVOR A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION TO MONITOR THE DECLARATION BUT WESTERN STATES OPPOSE ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL BUREAUCRACY, PREFERRING A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING IN A FEW YEARS TO EVALUATE THE RESULTS. SUMMIT COULD BE BLOCKED BY ONE STATE; AND GREECE CONTENDS TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS VIOLATES EVERY NOBLE TENET OF SECURITY PACT.

5. JENNIFER. THURSDAY PHILA INQUIRER EDITORIAL HELD THAT JENNIFER WAS DRAMATIC ACCOMPLISHMENT DESPITE PARTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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FAILURE, ADDING THAT SUGGESTIONS PROJECT MIGHT ENDANGER DETENTE ARE NONSENSE. SUNDAY WASHPOST EDITORIAL HELD JENNIFER UNDERLINES CIA'S LEGITIMATE INTELLIGENCE ROLE AND TECHNOLOGICAL SUPERIORITY, ADDING THAT SUCH INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION IS NOT NECESSARILY INCONSISTENT WITH DETENTE. FRIDAY WASHSTAR HAD SIMILAR EDITORIAL STRESSING JENNIFER WAS TREMENDOUS FEAT.

5A. SUNDAY JOSEPH KRAFT COLUMN TERMED JENNIFER AN IMPORTANT AND LEGITIMATE OPERATION AND SAID THERE IS NO SIGN THE RUSSIANS ARE KISSING OFF DETENTE. SUNDAY WASHSTAR HAD ARTICLE BY SENATOR PELL CAUTIONING THAT INTELLIGENCE NEEDS AND CHOICE OF COVER SUCH AS THAT USED IN JENNIFER CAN AND OFTEN DO DESTROY TRUST AND DAMAGE UNDERSTANDING, AND MAY HAVE AN INSIDIOUS IMPACT ON NEGOTIATIONS TO

REACH AGREEMENTS ABOUT OCEANIC MINING AND ARMS CONTROL.

6. COMMENT. CHARLES YOST COLUMN TODAY NOTES 3 CAUSES OF PRESENT ARMS RACE: 1, GROSS MISPERCEPTION BY THE SUPER-POWERS OF EACH OTHER'S REAL INTENTIONS, CITING US RESTRAINT IN 1956 AND 1968 IN HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA; 2, UNPRECEDENTED AFFLUENCE ENABLING PAINLESS RACING; 3, HUGE GROWTH OF MILITARY OFFICER CORPS IN BOTH COUNTRIES. WE HAVE NOT FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, YOST WRITES, NEEDED ANYWHERE NEAR SO MANY MISSILES AS WE HAVE HAD; IF A RADICAL CHANGE IN ATTITUDES OCCURS IT WILL BE BECAUSE AN ERA IS OVER, AND MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE PERCEIVE NEEDS FAR MORE PRESSING THAN THE ENDLESS ACCUMULATION OF COSTLY AND USELESS WEAPONS.

6A. SUNDAY BALTSUN EDITORIAL ON BRITISH PULLBACK SAYS OFFICIAL NATO DISQUIET IS JUSTIFIED BECAUSE THERE SHOULD BE NO WESTERN UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS UNTIL FORCE REDUCTIONS ARE NEGOTIATED WITH WARSAW COUNTRIES. WHAT IS REQUIRED IS AGREED RESTRUCTURING OF EUROPE'S DEFENSE BURDEN, WITH

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FRANCE FULLY TAKING PART, INCLUDING INCREASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT. KISSINGER

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